

20<sup>th</sup> July 18)2

My dear Professor

I am doubly in debt towards you, having to answer yr two last very kind letters, and at the same time to thank you for the botanical papers you have sent me, all of which (i.e. those you mentioned) I have safely received. There is a new agent of the *L'Instituzionista* in Milan, and by his means I shall regularly forward to you anything I may happen to publish; but I am afraid that will not be much, as my time is so taken up with lecturing and the small work of the garden, that very little leisure is left me for scientific research. That is unfortunately the case with the occupants of all the University chairs in Italy, who dispose of a very limited staff for the management of their collections, and must either neglect them and their professional duties, or

be content to do very little original work. However, I have managed to get an assistant, and am training him to take off my hands much of the routine business. Your friend Mr. Emerson, to whom as an intelligent and practical observer I was much gratified to show the garden here, will be able to give you an account of it. I found it in rather an antiquated state, with much bush and hedge but not many plants, and am trying to get it ~~by~~ degrees into good order. The library and herbarium &c. are sufficient for ordinary purposes.

Bisa is not only quiet, but a very dull place indeed; the inhabitants have scarcely any intercourse with each other, and even amongst the professors there is no intellectual tie. There is also a great deficiency of schools for children. In all other respects, climate, living, &c., Bisi is a very eligible abode indeed, and a good central station for the study of the natural products of central Italy.

I am at present at the sea-side near Leghorn with my family, who are all doing well. Next month I intend making a tour thro' Germany, Holland, England and France, to visit my friends and relations there, and examine some of the botanical establishments. I trust I shall find Dr. Hooker in the possession of Lew, it would be an ardent shame for England and a very great injury to science were that Mr. Lyell to get the better of him in their contest, as H. seems determined to resign were such the case. I anxiously hope it will not be so, and that the memorial presented to Mr. Gladstone by the most eminent naturalists of England will avert what would be a real calamity to botany.

Mr. Sartore here is very busy trying to get up a horticultural show and botanical congress for the spring of 1874, an interesting one. I wonder whether it will succeed.

Mr. Emerson gave me satisfactory news

of yourself and yr family. I hope I  
shall continue to receive such from  
you when you write again. With my  
best respects to Mrs. Gray I beg you  
to believe me always yours very  
sincerely

T. Carver